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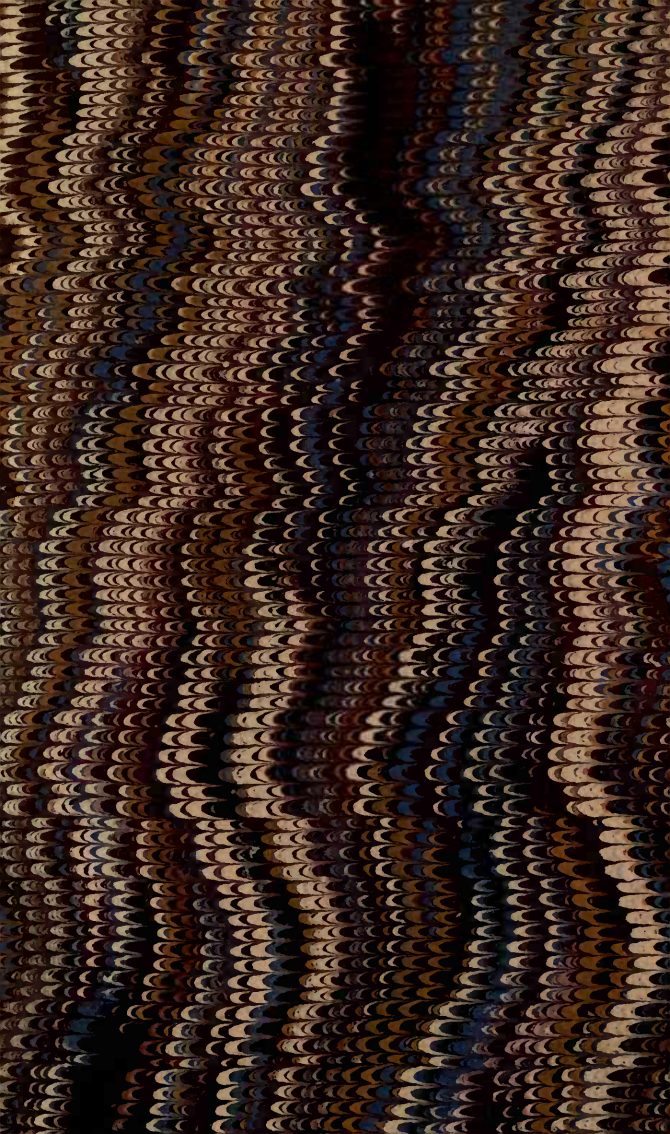
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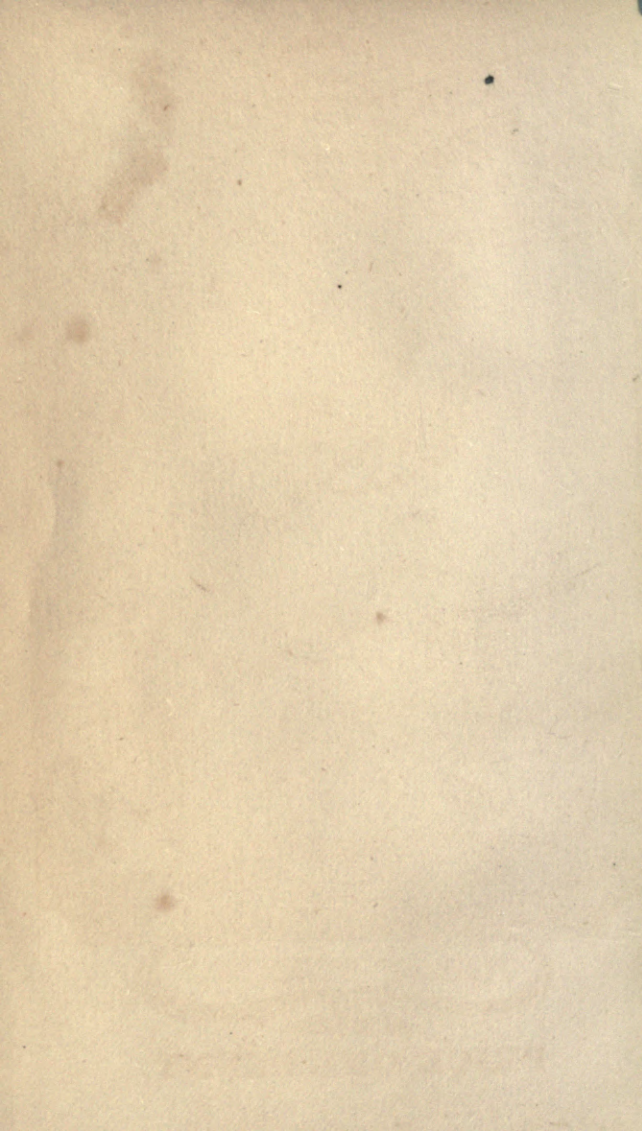
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PERCH FISHING.

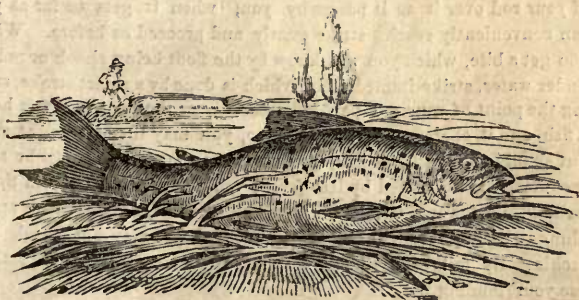
PRICE ONE PENNY.

JACK FISHING



PRICE ONE PENNY.

THE BOY'S
OWN HAND BOOK
OF
ANGLING.



THE TROUT.

London:

Printed and Published, by J. MARCH,
12, Webber Street, Blackfriars Road.

MARCH'S



INSTRUCTIONS

FOR
THE YOUNG ANGLER.

BOTTOM FISHING.

First plumb your depth and throw in some ground bait, then let your bait fall quietly in the upper part of the swim, keeping the top of your rod over it as it passes by you; when it gets as far as you can conveniently reach, strike gently and proceed as before. When you get a bite, which you will know by the float being shook or pulled under water, strike immediately, which is done by a smart stroke, raising the point of your rod perpendicularly over the float. If you hook a fish, and it offers but little resistance, you may lift him out at once but should it be a large fish, you must give more line, until he suffers himself to be turned by less force; you must then keep him tight, pulling him towards you, when opportunity offers, and when he again plunges, easing your hand towards him, that he may not break the tackle. By following this plan, you may soon tire him out; then use your landing net.

In Pond fishing, the principal causes of success are ground bait, a fine bottom to your line, a clean lively bait, and quiet water. If you bait with a red worm, and there are Bream, Rudd, and other fish in the water; use a fine wire hook, No. 9 or 10.

N.B. Where fresh water runs into a pond. is generally the best part for angling. In rivers, let your swim be shallowest at the end.

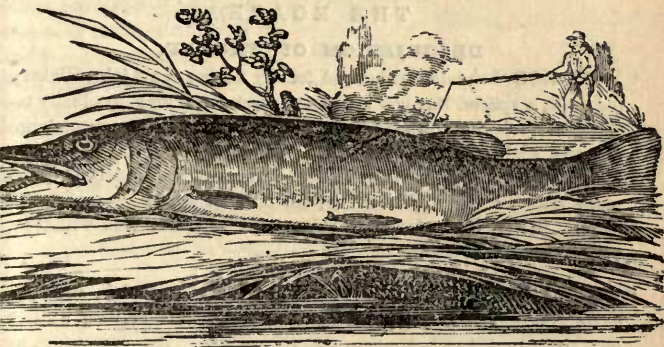
TROLLING FOR PIKE.

The most easy method is with the gorge hook, To use this, you must have a baiting needle (see cut) which you enter at the mouth of the bait pass it all through the body and bring it out at the tail, drawing the hook through after it, the points so as not to project

beyond the fish; then tie a thread round the tail to prevent its tearing when it catches

the weeds; now add this to your trace, and all is ready. Having your bait prepared, proceed to cast it forth, in such places as you think likely to contain a fish, letting it dive to the bottom, then drawing it up gently, so as just to let it twirl round as it rises, let it sink and rise again till the line is close to you.

When you get a bite, which you will perceive by the bait being suddenly pulled, held fast, or sometimes only shook, immediately hold the point of your rod down, and with the left hand keep two or three yards of loose line ready, that he may not be checked when he runs. If he lies still two or three minutes, shakes the line, and runs again, you may wind in the loose line, and strike. When exhausted, lead him to a suitable spot, and land him. Observe, when a Pike is on the feed, you can hardly loose him by any other means than not giving him time to pouch.



THE JACK or PIKE.

When the water is high or thick, they lie close in shore, among sedges under trees, on shallows where there is little or no stream, &c.

The most approved LIVE BAIT is used as follows: To a foot of gimp, not too coarse, fix a rather fine wired double hook, at the other end of which make a small loop; then take your baiting needle, which for this purpose must be fine, and enter it on the upper part of the side of the bait fish, near the gills, and bring it out past the back fin, when the needle is through, hang the loop of your gimp on it, and draw that after till the hook lies close to the bait.

Your float should be placed on your silk line, as should your shots or bullet, to keep the fish down, before you affix the bait. Many large Pike are also taken with a live bait attached to a Trimmer, or cork.

GENERAL REMARKS. Windy weather (if from the west or south) suits both Jack and Perch, but they like the quietest parts. In January and February the Jack are in pairs; at which time, if you take one, put on a fresh bait, and try close by for the other. During these months they feed agerly, and note this, a Jack generally takes a bait across his mouth, by the body, and swallows it head first.



THE ROACH,

DESCRIPTION OF TACKLE.

The ROD I should recommend for Fly fishing is a 4 joint Hickory rod with a spliced Bamboo top, about twelve feet long. gradually tapering from the top to the but; with winch fittings, rings not too large nor the Rod too heavy. For Trolling, or Spinning, use a Bamboo or Hickory rod, from 12 to 16 feet in length, with upright rings, made strong and light; so as to cast the bait a long distance with ease. For Bank or Bottom fishing, a long Bamboo Rod with tops, to suit various purposes.

THE WINCH I should recommend would be a plain multiplier for fly-fishing; to hold about 30 yards of line. For Trolling, a Plain one, constructed to hold about 60 yards of line. Let your winch be full large in proportion to the line, or it will not wind up pleasantly.

THE RUNNING LINE for Fly-fishing should be made of good silk and horse hair wove together; at the end of which have a loop about half an inch long to fasten your gut bottom to (which should be about three yards long, taper, and strong in proportion to the size of the fish you expect to catch;) at each end of the gut bottom you must have a loop, one to slip your running line through, and then put the other through the loop in the running line, draw the gut all through, and it will be fast; do the same with your fly to the bottom loop when you want to use it.

The Trolling Line should be made of plaited silk, which is better and more durable than any other.

FLOATS are made of different kinds; a porcupine's quill will answer very well for still water, or where there is little stream. A cork float is preferable for perch or barbel fishing, and the Thames generally. For Roach, Dace, &c. you must always use as fine a tipped cap float as the stream will suffer to pass steadily along. I should recommend a tipped cap float, either of quills or reeds, for most purposes. If Live bait fishing for Jack, then a large cork float is necessary, so that the bait may not be able to swim away with it.

THE PLUMMET is a piece of lead, with a ring at the top, and some cork to stick the point of the hook in the bottom. When used, place your float so that when your plumb touches the bottom, the top of your float may be two inches above the water at the end of your swim. THE HOOK should be in proportion to the size of the bait, taking care not to have it too large.

THE LINE for Bottom-fishing should be about three feet longer than the water is deep, in order that you may not have too much between the top of your rod and the float. The following articles will be found necessary. Some Cut Shot, large and small; a few caps, and a sufficient quantity of Spare Hooks, tied on; a Landing Net, or Hook, No. 1; a Clearing Ring, No. 2; a Disgorger, No. 3; a Tin Box to put your gentles in, No. 4; a Bag with damp moss for worms, No. 5; and a Pocket Book for the purpose of holding all the smaller articles in a compact form, No. 6. Some persons use a Drum Net, No. 7, to keep the fish alive while they are angling.



BAITS.

GENTLES. Those from a bullock's liver are the best. PASTE should be made of the crumb of bread dipped in water, and worked up into a dough with clean hands. GREAVES. should be scalded

over night; pick out the whitest pieces for your hook.

WORMS. The small lively Marsh worm is the best for Trout, Tench, Carp, Perch, Barble, and Chub. The Red worm is more favourable for small fish. The Blood worm is the best bait for Gudgeons and Prussian Carp. The Brandling is good for Perch. Take care you have not too much of it loose, or they will take it off the hook.



THE DACE.

For Ground Bait, a stale loaf well soaked and mixed with bran, made into small balls, is good, for Roach, Dace, Chub, &c. Greaves and Bran mixt with Clay, is the best for Barbel. I prefer Carrion Gentles mixt with Clay and Bran, or they may be used loose where there is no stream.

Note, always throw your ground bait in at the top of the swim.

FLY FISHING.

In Throwing a FLY, the most common fault of a young beginner is, not waiting while the line takes its sweep round, after drawing it off the water; he mostly returns it too quick. which causes it either to fall in the water all of a heap, or smack like a whip and lose his fly.

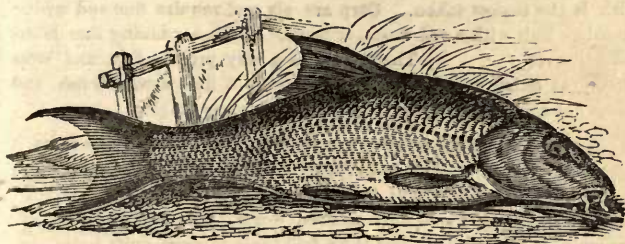
The best thing he can do is to observe one who has had experience in the art; then take a light rod, and let out 8 or 9 yards of line with a small palmer, throw across or down the stream, until he can feel some confidence in the direction it will fall, taking care at the same time, that as little line as possible falls on the water with it; when he can manage this well, he may let out another yard or two of line, and so on, till he can command the water he frequents. A light rod, with from 10 to 12 yards of line, thrown straight forth and lightly, will be more likely to succeed than a greater length managed with less skill.



THE GUDGEON.

If you get a rise, strike quick, but not hard, as the least motion of the hand will hook him. If a Trout, you may both see and feel him, as they often take it quick enough to hook themselves. The slowest fish is a Chub. When you hook a fish, do not lift him out with your rod, as raising one of a pound that way will strain it more than killing a fish of seven. The most likely places to succeed with a fly, are mill tails, weirs, scours, where two rivers join, or at the edge of a bed of weeds, where the water runs fast. Chub delight in deep holes, under trees, &c.

A LIST OF THE MOST USEFUL FLIES. May Flies; Red, Black, Peacock, Dun, and other Palmers; Blue Dun; Stone Fly; the Coachman; Humble Bee; Black Gnats; Red Spinners; Red and Black Ant Flies; Brown and White Moths; and March Brown.



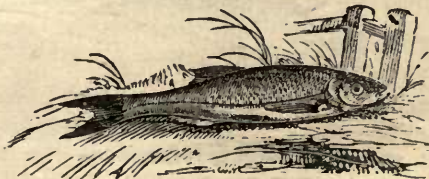
THE BARBEL.

DESCRIPTION OF FISH.

The PRICKLEBACK and MINNOW are only useful as baits for Trout, Perch, small Jack or Eels.

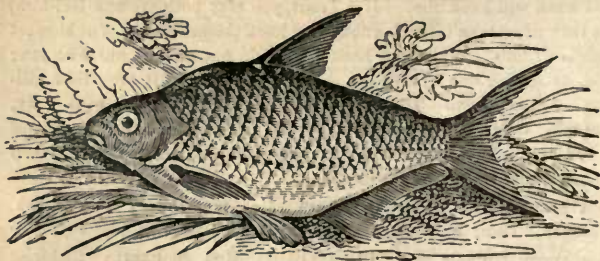
The BLEAK is easily caught with a gentle on a light line; fish about a foot deep, and strike the instant they bite.

The GUDGEON should be angled for with a small red, or blood worm, close to the ground. You will much increase your sport by occasionally raking the bottom of the river.



THE BLEAK.

THE BREAM.



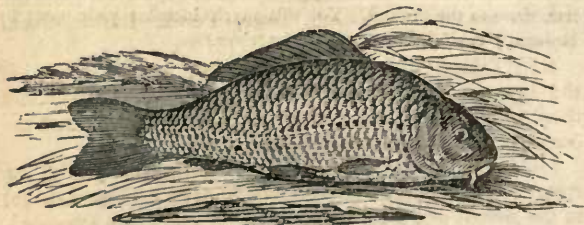
Carp and Tench are found in most still waters, the latter-named fish is the easiest taken. Carp are sly and require fine and strong tackle. Bait with a red worm, or paste. N.B. A running line is indispensable.

The BREAM is a very prolific fish, and bites freely at either gentles or worms. It is a dull cowardly fish, and does not afford much sport, except to the young angler.

The CHUB, when small, strongly resembles the dace; but as it grows larger, the head and mouth expand, by which it loses much of its beauty. The best bait during the winter, is a piece of bullock's brains, or a good lively well seoured worm. In summer they rise eagerly at a fly. You will then find them in deep quiet holes, under trees that overhang the water, a humble bee, large palmer, or towards evening, a white moth will generally succeed

THE PERCH

is found in ponds, rivers, &c. where it will grow to four or five pounds in weight. They are easily caught with a strong line, a cork float, a No. 6 hook, baited with a minnow or worm. You must fish in a quiet place, near flood-gates, or mill-heads, where there is little or no stream.



THE CARP

REMARKS ON THE SEASONS

MOST FAVORABLE TO THE A N G L E R .

JANUARY. In the middle of the day you may take Jack, Chub, or Roach; if the water is clear, and the weather mild for the season.

FEBRUARY. You should fish in shallower water, near the banks, where there is a stream. Towards the latter end you may retire till the fish have spawn'd.

MARCH. The Trout in the West of England, begin now to rise at the flies, &c. You may also take Chub, Perch, Dace, & Gudgeons: but generally speaking it is a bad month for angling, except for Trout or Salmon.

APRIL. The Trout and Dace, sport on the shallows after the early flies. This is also a very good month for Perch in rivers.

MAY. Is the best month for Trout, as it is likewise for Pond-fishing; but with the exception of Gudgeons, Eels, and Perch, you may leave off Bottom-fishing till July.

Towards the end of this month the may-fly comes in, and lasts till the middle or end of June, in the course of which time you may take plenty of fish in nearly all parts of England.

JUNE. The Trout near London are now in their prime, but, in the early rivers they fall off. This is a good month for pond fishing, and also for fly fishing.

JULY. The same as June.

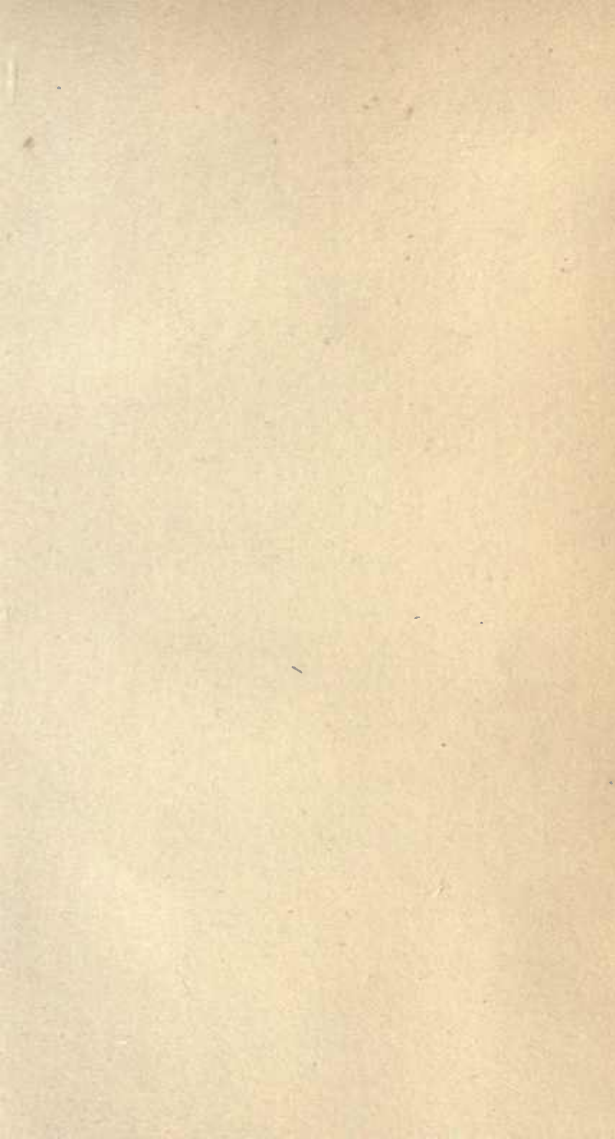
AUGUST. You must be at the water-side by daylight in the morning or in the evening; the fish will not feed during the middle of the day, unless cloudy and cool: the fish in season are Roach, Dace, Perch, Barbel, Jack, Bream, Carp, and Tench.

SEPTEMBER. You must still fish early and late. If the days are hot, and the water very clear, you will find them in the deeper parts. after this month I would not recommend Pond-fishing, except for Jack.

OCTOBER. Is favourable for Bottom-fishing in the rivers round London, (fly-fishing is over.) The fish get in the deeps, and feed eagerly; Barbel and Dace excepted.

NOVEMBER. The same as October.

DECEMBER. The same as January.



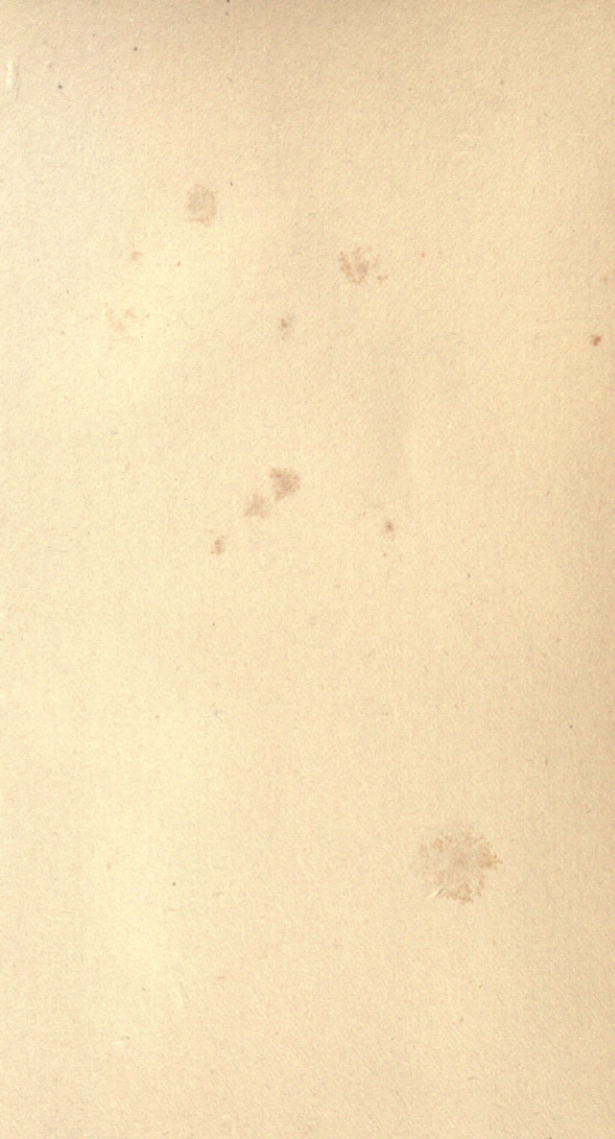


















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